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Letter dated 5 February 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to my letter dated 24 January 2001 addressed to you (S/2001/85) and on instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 4 February 2001 from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq. Appended to the Minister's letter is a table showing violations of Iraq's international boundaries committed by United States and British warplanes flying across the demilitarized zone monitored by the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) in the period from 1 to 26 January 2001.

The Minister urges you to secure the necessary technical systems to enable UNIKOM to perform its functions in the manner required by its mandate under the relevant Security Council resolutions and to track and identify all of these violations and encroachments, which constitute wanton aggression against Iraq and against its people, its sovereignty and its territory and are incompatible with the relevant Security Council resolutions, the Charter of the United Nations and the norms of international law.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed **Al-Humaimidi**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the letter dated 5 February 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to my letter dated 24 January 2001 addressed to you (S/2001/85, annex), I should like to inform you that United States and British warplanes committed 183 violations of Iraq's international boundaries by way of the demilitarized zone monitored by the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) in the period from 1 to 26 January 2001. On the basis of the table appended to this letter, the relevant Iraqi authorities have determined that the violations committed were as follows:

1. Armed and hostile aerial activity by the United States and the United Kingdom, violating our international boundaries from the demilitarized zone, comprised 183 sorties in the following governorates: Basrah, Maysan, Dhi Qar, Qadisiyah, Muthanna, Najaf and Wasit.

2. Our technical systems identified the aircraft violating Iraq's airspace on an almost daily basis as American F-14s, F-15s, F-16s and F-18s and British Tornadoes.

3. All of the armed and hostile sorties that violated Iraq's airspace from the demilitarized zone received support from AWACS aircraft operating inside Saudi Arabian airspace and E-2C aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace.

All of the violations in question were committed by way of the demilitarized zone in which UNIKOM is stationed. UNIKOM has the responsibility of monitoring such hostile military operations and reporting them immediately or, at the very least, including information in their regard in the periodic reports that it submits to you and thence to the Security Council for purposes of documentation. The members of the Council and the international community in general may thus be informed of such violations and military encroachments committed by the United States and the United Kingdom so that they may act to take appropriate measures to halt them.

The statements of UNIKOM to the effect that it is unable to monitor or identify these aircraft cannot be maintained in the light of the scientific and technological capabilities that are available or that UNIKOM is in a position to obtain and utilize in order to fulfil the requirements of its mandate by establishing the identity and country of the warplanes that are violating Iraq's sovereign airspace.

I accordingly urge you to secure the systems that will allow UNIKOM to perform its functions in the manner required by its mandate under the relevant Security Council resolutions by identifying all of these violations and encroachments, which constitute wanton aggression against Iraq and against its people, its sovereignty and its territory and are incompatible with the relevant Security Council resolutions, the Charter of the United Nations and the norms of international law.

(*Signed*) Tariq **Aziz**
Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs

Appendix

Hostile aerial activity violating Iraq's international boundaries from Kuwait, 1-26 January 2001

No	*Date*	*From*	*Time*	*Type*	*Sorties*	*Altitude (metres)*	*Speed (km h)*	*Areas overflown*
1	1-7 January	Kuwait	1222-1400	F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado	48	10,000-12,000	720-780	Basrah, Amarah, Qurnah, Busayyah, Shatrah, Diwaniyah
2	8-14 January	Kuwait	0900-2025	F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado	63	11,000-12,000	720-780	Chabayish, Samawah, Ashbajah, Qurnah, Amarah, Nasiriyah, Qal`at Salih
3	15-21 January	Kuwait	1100-2225	F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado	46	10,000-12,000	720-780	Diwaniyah, Hashimiyah, Nasiriyah, Amarah, Samawah
4	22-26 January	Kuwait	1030-1600	F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado	26	10,000-12,000	720-780	Qurnah, Busayyah, Ashbajah, Amarah, Basrah, Samawah

Total sorties: 183